

Exhibit No. 13
Date: 4/8/15
Bill No. HB 425

April 7, 2015

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is Julie Dockery D-O-C-K-E-R-Y and I am from Kalispell. I would like to share a short story with you today that touched my heart. A few weeks ago I was at my friend Michele's house for a cookout. She was ecstatic to show me some fertilized goose eggs that were in the incubator and close to hatching. She took me downstairs and carefully picked up one of the eggs out of the incubator. She then turned out the overhead lights and shone a flashlight right up against that egg. I didn't know what to expect, but what I saw amazed me! There was a red glow from the light, and in it I saw the shape of a precious little goose. He was getting so big that he was almost filling the egg. But he or she was so active! Michele was holding very still, but that baby goose was moving! He or she was swishing around and I know I saw a webbed foot move! I had tears in my eyes thinking how in just a few weeks this goose would break through that egg shell and see the outside world for the first time. It was a precious experience! Michele picked up several more eggs and we looked at each of them, all in different stages of growth; all of them alive and moving on their own. She explained the care she was taking to make sure the eggs were protected, that they were incubating at just the right temperature and that they were free from bacteria. She was turning them 3 or 4 times a day just like the mother would do. See, Michelle was trying to keep any of them from DYING. She had a few eggs sitting over to the side and I asked her about them. She said those got bacteria in them and DIED; they were going to be disposed of.

I tell that story today, to emphasize our callousness to fertilized human ~~eggs~~. You see, if anyone intentionally hurt or killed one of those fertilized goose eggs most of us in this room would be appalled. We would call them a goose-killer; tell them they were inhumane and cruel. We would tell them that baby goose was obviously alive: it was moving on its own, it was growing! How could you hurt or kill it? But when we discuss the fertilized human ~~egg~~ none of those facts seem to apply. The human fetus is moving on its own, kicking, hiccupping, it has its own heartbeat and it is growing, but we are told it is not alive. So when someone intentionally hurts or kills a fertilized human ~~egg~~, we aren't supposed to call them a baby-killer or tell them they are inhumane or cruel.

Why do we put more value on the life of a fertilized goose egg than we do on the life of a fertilized human ~~egg~~?

By passing the HB 425 Personhood Amendment, you will allow Montanans to vote for or against it in November 2016. I ask that you please give the VOTERS the opportunity to choose! Together, let's stop the killing of babies; not just regulate how we kill them. If Montanans vote for the Personhood Amendment in 2016, we will protect the innocent unborn in Montana by law and we will stop the dehumanizing of unborn human babies!